

Annual Report

ON

✱ THE HEALTH ✱

OF THE

BOROUGH OF DEAL,

FOR THE YEAR

1896.



BY

RICHARD LYDDON,

Medical Officer of Health.

T. F. Pain, "Mercury" Commercial Printing Works, Deal.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Deal.

GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1896, containing a statement of the vital statistics for the year, and a summary of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector. One noticeable feature in the Report is the low general death-rate, and the comparative absence of zymotic disease in the district. These facts speak well for the healthiness of the Borough.

POPULATION.

The Census of April, 1891, showed the population of the Borough to be 8,891. At the previous Census of 1881, it was 8,422. There was, therefore, during that decade, an increase of 469, or practically 47 per annum. Presuming that this increase has remained constant, the estimated population in April, 1896, would be 9,126, and in July, the period which should be taken for statistical purposes, 9,138.

BIRTHS.

During the year, 226 births were registered in the Borough, 118 of which were males, and 108 females, giving a birth-rate of 24·7 per 1,000. This is rather less than during the previous year, when 242 births were registered, and the birth-rate was 26·6.

The natural increase of the population by births over deaths was 91.

DEATHS.

126 deaths were registered within the Borough during the year, 61 of which were males, and 65 females. In addition to these, 12 persons from the Deal District died in Eastry Union, at an average age of 79 years. 7 of these were males, and 5 females. Before calculating the death-rate, these deaths should be added to those registered within the Borough, and the deaths occurring among visitors eliminated. This has been done, as far as possible, making the total number of deaths belonging to the district 135, and the death-rate 14·7 per thousand.

The rate of Infant Mortality, i.e., the proportion of deaths occurring among infants under 1 year to births registered, is 132·7 per thousand.


The zymotic death-rate was ·9 per 1,000.

In the following schedule the rates for the whole of England and Wales are compared with those of Deal for the year, and for further comparison the rates of Deal for 1895 are appended.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infant Mortality per 1000 Births.	Zymotic Death Rate.
England and Wales, 1896	29.7	17.1	148	2.18
Deal, 1896	24.7	14.7	132.7	0.9
Deal, 1895	26.6	17.1		0.4

DEATHS BY VIOLENCE & MISADVENTURE.

One death is recorded from eating pieces of broken glass, and one suicide by hanging. The Coroner held 3 inquests and 8 inquiries in the Borough during the year.



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(A)

Table of Deaths during the Year 1896, in the Deal Urban District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions, being shown as separate localities. (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.) (a)	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.							(i)	MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.												
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.		Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVER. Enteric or Typhoid	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	TOTAL.
	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)														
Deal	126	30	6	4	7	34	45	Under 5	1	1		5	1			16				14	38
								5 upwds.			1			1	13	8	13	1	2	49	88
TOTALS.	126	30	6	4	7	34	45	Under 5	1	1	1	5	1	1	13	16	13	1	2	14	38
								5 upwds.								8				49	88

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of Mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.	12				1	11	Under 5								1		1			10	12
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto	3				2	1	Under 5									1	1			1	3
							5 upwds.														

(B) Table of Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1896, in the Deal Urban District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities. (a)	Population at all Ages.		Registered Births. (d)	Aged under 5 or over 5. (e)	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.				Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital. None.
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1896.			Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Fever Enteric or Typhoid	Erysipelas.	
	(b)	(c)							
DEAL.....	8891	9138	226	Under 5	1	5		1	
				5 upwds.	10		2	3	
TOTALS				Under 5	1	5		1	
				5 upwds.	10		2	3	

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District: Yes. Since when? April 3rd, 1895. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated: There is none.

The SEVEN PRINCIPAL ZYMOTIC DISEASES

Nine deaths were registered from zymotic diseases during the year, 8 of which occurred among children under 5 years of age. These comprised 5 from measles, 2 from diphtheria, 1 from whooping-cough, and 1 from enteric fever.

Under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act 22 cases were notified to the Medical Officer during the year. These comprised 11 from scarlet fever, 5 from diphtheria, 2 from enteric fever, and 4 from erysipelas. As to the 11 cases of scarlet fever, 5 occurred in one house. The disease was imported by a visitor, and was confined to members of his family. Measles, a disease not notifiable here under the above Act, was prevalent during the spring and early summer, and caused 5 deaths. To this was due our increased zymotic death-rate last year. On the whole, the district has been very free from infectious disease.

The tables marked A and B, which here follow, are those sent annually by the Local Government Board to Medical Officers of Health for them to fill in.

WATER.

The question of acquiring the rights of the existing Water Company has engaged the serious attention of the Corporation during the past year. The matter is still *sub judice*, and in all probability will be shortly settled. The water is drawn from adits in the chalk, and is of excellent quality, its only fault being its hardness. The following is a copy of the last analysis received by the Sanitary Authority:—

THE LABORATORY,
11, Billiter Square, E.C.

DEAR SIRS,

I beg to enclose my Report on the Water, and am glad to be able to speak so favourably of the sample. No town need wish

for a better supply. The only objection is its hardness.

Yours very faithfully,

OTTO HEHNER,

To the Directors of the
Deal Water Company,
Deal.

REPORT

*on a Sample of Water supplied by the Deal Water Works Company,
received August 7th, from Mr. W. R. Hammond.*

The Sample of Water received a few days ago has been subjected by me to a full Chemical Analysis, with the subjoined results, which express the composition of 100,000 parts of the Water.

Chlorine	...	...	...	...	2.86
Sulphuric Acid		...	...		.53
Nitric Acid	...	...	...		1.90
Carbonic Acid	...	..			10.03
Silica	...	...	...	...	.54
Lime	...	...	...		13.43
Magnesia	...	...	...	...	.50
Iron and Alumina	...	...			.30
Sodium	...	...	...	...	1.86
					<hr/>
					31.95

The constituents occur in the Water in the following forms of compounds.

Chloride of Sodium	...	...		4.72
Sulphate of Calcium		...		.90
Nitrate of Calcium	...	...		2.89
Carbonate of Calcium	...			21.55
Carbonate of Magnesium		...		1.05
Silica	...	...	...	.54
Oxyde of Iron and Alumina	...			.30
				<hr/>
				31.95

Free Ammonia	...	...	None
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	·0030
Hardness before Boiling	...		17.6 Clarke.
Do. after Boiling	...	...	1·8

The Water was perfectly clear, and, viewed through a layer 2 feet deep, exhibited a faintly blue tint.

The results of this Analysis are such as are furnished by pure and unpolluted chalk waters, the amount of organic matter is practically nil, whilst the proportion of dissolved mineral constituents is rather high ; and since the latter consist almost wholly of Carbonate of Lime (or Chalk), the water is somewhat hard.

It does not shew the slightest evidence of pollution, and I would pronounce it, as far as Chemical Analysis allows me of forming an opinion, a Water of exceedingly good quality.

OTTO HEHNER, F.I.C.F.C.S.,
Public Analyst.

Hon. Secretary of the Society of Public Analysts.
Lecturer on Practical Chemistry, Westminster Hospital.

The supply is at present intermittent, but there is reason to believe that when the rights of the Water Company become vested in the Corporation, arrangements will be made for providing a constant supply throughout the district.

During the year two surface wells have been condemned, the water on analysis having been found unfit for drinking purposes.

DRAINAGE.

The present system of drainage has been found to be inadequate to the increasing requirements of the district, and the outfalls prejudicial to sea bathing. To remedy this condition the Sanitary Authority have consulted Mr. Baldwin Latham with a view to formulating a drainage scheme for the whole of Deal. The plans are still in hand. Levels have been taken, and tidal observations recorded. It is to be

regretted that the neighbouring town of Walmer does not join with Deal in this scheme so as to get the whole of the sewage away from the shore at one point, and do away with the multiple outfalls which at present exist.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

In last year's report the late Medical Officer states "The fact that this has not yet been built is due more to the difficulty experienced by the Sanitary Authority in producing plans and site agreeable to the Local Government Board than to any obstacles or delay on their part." This statement made a year ago may be said to represent the position of affairs at the present time. The great difficulty seems to have been and is the effectual drainage of the proposed hospital to the satisfaction of the Local Government Board. This difficulty will probably be simplified when a drainage scheme for the whole of Deal is propounded and carried out.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK.

The duties of this department have been carried out by Mr. Golder with his usual diligence and ability. Appended is Mr. Golder's summary of the work done.

There have been 597 premises inspected during the year, and 342 notices were served for the abatement of nuisances ; in 29 cases threatening letters were sent, but, fortunately, it was not necessary to take legal proceedings in any case.

The following is a list of the nuisances abated and sanitary defects remedied :—

39 back yards, wash-houses, and stables repaved ; 40 closet pans provided with means for flushing ; 15 defective closet pans replaced with new ; 40 closet middens done away with and premises drained ; 32 middens and wooden closet boxes replaced with galvanized iron receptacles ; 63 soil pipes ventilated ; 111 defective traps replaced with sanitary syphon traps ; 8 houses provided with proper guttering and roofs repaired ; 2 cases of overcrowding remedied ; at 13 different

premises the occupiers have been found to be drinking unwholesome well water, and notices have been served to lay on the Company's water, which have been complied with.

8 slaughter-houses, 3 common lodging-houses, and 14 dairies and cowsheds have been inspected. These generally were found to be in good order.

The disinfecting oven is in good working order, and has done excellent work during the year.

I may add that plans of 60 new houses have been approved during the past year, also 26 plans of additions and alterations to existing premises, and 3 new stables and 1 store—nearly all of which have been erected, or are in the course of erection. This, compared with some of the most rapidly-increasing sea-side resorts, is very satisfactory.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

I conclude with a table of Mortality Statistics, which will show at a glance the details incorporated in my Report. The first portion of the table deals with the total number of births and deaths, and the deaths occurring at different periods of life. The second portion deals with the principal diseases, and the number of persons dead of each disease. The third portion gives the general birth and death rates, the Zymotic death-rate and the rate of Infant Mortality.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RICHARD LYDDON,

Medical Officer of Health.

MORTALITY STATISTICS

For the Borough of Deal, for the Year ending 31st December, 1896.

Total	Females		Males		BIRTHS.		DEATHS.		DEATHS OF PERSONS AGED								SEVEN PRINCIPAL ZYMOTIC DISEASES.		DEATHS FROM								DEATHS FROM DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS AND OTHER DISEASES.																ANNUAL RATE PER 1000 PERSONS LIVING																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										

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